

**House File 442 - Introduced**

HOUSE FILE 442

BY SALMON

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act requiring a Lyme disease testing information disclosure.

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1      Section 1. NEW SECTION.    139A.27    Lyme disease testing  
2 information disclosure.

3        1. A health care provider who orders a laboratory test  
4 for the presence of Lyme disease shall provide to the patient  
5 or the patient's legal representative the following written  
6 information:

7 Your health care provider has ordered a laboratory test for  
8 the presence of Lyme disease for you. Current laboratory  
9 testing for Lyme disease can be problematic and standard  
10 laboratory tests often result in false negative and false  
11 positive results, and if done too early, you may not have  
12 produced enough antibodies to be considered positive because  
13 your immune response requires time to develop antibodies. If  
14 you are tested for Lyme disease, and the results are negative,  
15 this does not necessarily mean you do not have Lyme disease.  
16 If you continue to experience symptoms, you should contact your  
17 health care provider and inquire about the appropriateness of  
18 retesting or additional treatment.

19       2. A health care provider shall be immune from civil  
20 liability for the provision of the written information required  
21 by this section absent gross negligence or willful misconduct.

22       Sec. 2. PERIODIC REVIEW OF LYME DISEASE TESTING  
23 INFORMATION. The department of public health shall  
24 periodically review the Lyme disease testing notification  
25 language specified in section 139A.27, as enacted in this Act,  
26 to evaluate its accuracy and continuing applicability. The  
27 department may recommend legislation to revise or eliminate the  
28 notification language.

29	EXPLANATION
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30 This bill requires that a health care provider who orders  
31 a laboratory test for Lyme disease shall provide written  
32 information, as specified in the bill, relating to the  
33 limitations of the test.

34 A health care provider shall be immune from civil liability  
35 for the provision of the written information required by the

1 bill absent gross negligence or willful misconduct.

2     The department of public health is directed to periodically  
3 review the required written information for accuracy and  
4 continuing applicability.